



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 018656-135

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Patent Application of |) | MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE |
| Takayuki Nabeshima |) | |
| Application No.: 09/526,878 |) | Group Art Unit: 2626 |
| Filed: March 16, 2000 |) | Examiner: Thomas J. Lett |
| For: BLACK EDGE DETERMINATION |) | Confirmation No.: 1442 |
| METHOD AND DEVICE |) | |
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RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance mailed on September 21, 2005, the Examiner indicates that claims 4-8 depend from claim 3. However, claim 7 is an independent claim that does not depend from claim 3. Accordingly, claim 7 is not limited by any of the elements of claim 3.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

Date: November 23, 2005

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